AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Original) A method for detecting a binding factor for a probe comprising:

(a) labeling the probe with a fluorophore;

(b) incubating the labeled probe with a factor or a group of factors which may bind the labeled probe to form a binding complex;

(c) separating the binding complex and the free probe into different fractions; and

(d) subjecting each fraction from step (c) to fluorescence polarization measurement under conditions wherein the binding complex produces a fluorescence pattern different from that of the free probe, thereby allowing detection of the binding complex.

Claim 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the free probe and the complex are separated by using capillary electrophoresis.

Claim 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the group of factor comprises a chemical compound library.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 3 wherein the chemical compound library is a combinatorial library.

Claims 5-10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the probe is selected from the group consisting of protein and nucleic acid.

Claim 12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the probe has a molecular weight of less than about 10,000 daltons.

Claims 13-15. (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the fluorophore is fluorescein.

Claims 17-23. (Canceled)

Claim 24. (New) A method for determining the binding affinity and/or stoichiometry of a binding complex between a binding factor and a probe, comprising:

(a) labeling the probe with a fluorophore;

(b) incubating the labeled probe with a factor or a group of factors which may bind the labeled probe to form a binding complex;

(c) separating the binding complex and the free probe into different fractions;

(d) subjecting each fraction from step (c) to fluorescence polarization measurement under conditions wherein the binding complex produces a fluorescence pattern different from that of the free probe, thereby allowing detection of the binding complex; and

(e) determining binding affinity and/or stoichiometry between the probe and the binding factor.